DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 345 811 JC 920 295

AUTHOR Head, Ronald B.
TITLE The Academic Performance of PVCC Students Transferring to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education, 1990-91. PVCC Institutional Research Brief. Brief No. 92-3.
INSTITUTION Piedmont Virginia Community Coll., Charlottesville, VA. Office of Institutional Research and Planning.
PUB DATE May 92
NOTE 25p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Research/Technical (143)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Academic Achievement; *College Transfer Students; Community Colleges; Enrollment Trends; Followup Studies; *Grade Point Average; Higher Education; Tables (Data); Two Year Colleges; *Two Year College Students; Universities
IDENTIFIERS *Piedmont Virginia Community College

ABSTRACT

Following a legislative mandate that required public four-year colleges and universities in Virginia to report the academic progress of community college transfer students, seven senior institutions submitted data to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) on the progress of PVCC transfer students. According to the submitted data, 176 PVCC students transferred to one of the following senior institutions: George Mason University; James Madison University (JMU); Longwood College; Old Dominion University; the University of Virginia (UVa); Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI); and Virginia Commonwealth University. Analyses of the information provided by the four-year institutions revealed the following: (1) 37.5% of the transfer students were graduates of PVCC; (2) academically, PVCC transfer students performed about as well as all students at public senior institutions in Virginia; (3) the majority of PVCC transfers to Virginia public senior institutions of higher education in 1990-91 transferred to UVa (40.9%) or JMU (22.7%); (4) for all PVCC transfers, the average grade point average (GPA) was 2.927; (5) for all PVCC programs except nursing, students' GPA's at the four-year institutions were lower than those at PVCC; (6) GPA data suggested that PVCC transferred not only the most students to UVa, but also its best students; and (6) at VPI, PVCC transfers did not perform as well academically as other students. (JMC)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED345811

PIEDMONT VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Academic Performance of PVCC Students Transferring to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1990-91)

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

R. B. Head

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☒ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

Office of Institutional Research and Planning
Piedmont Virginia Community College
Charlottesville, Virginia

Research Report
Number 3—92

May 1992

Ronald B. Head (Author)
Coordinator of Institutional Research and Planning
Piedmont Virginia Community College

JC920295

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Brief No. 92-3

PVCC Institutional Research Brief May 1992

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VIRGINIA PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (1990-91)

Guideline 8 of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) *Guidelines for Student Assessment* requires public four-year colleges and universities to report to any community college from which 5 or more students transferred the academic progress of those students. Seven senior institutions--George Mason University (GMU), James Madison University (JMU), Longwood College (LWC), Old Dominion University (ODU), the University of Virginia (UVa), Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI), and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)--submitted data to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC), and the analysis of and conclusions drawn from those data are reported in the study, *The Academic Performance of PVCC Students Transferring to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1990-91)* (PVCC Institutional Research Report No. 4-92, May 1992). This brief highlights that study.

One-hundred seventy-six PVCC students and graduates were reported as transferring in 1990-91 by the senior institutions responding to Guideline 8. Sixty-six (37.5%) of these were graduates of PVCC, and the majority (n=67; 61.5%) majored in the same subject area they had majored in at PVCC.

The PVCC instructional program with the largest number of transfers was the Business Administration degree program (Associate of Science [A.S.]). In all, 43 (or 24.4% of all 1990-91 transfers) were Business Administration students at PVCC, and 31 (72.1%) of these had graduated from PVCC. Twenty-eight (65.1%) of the Business Administration students majored in Business after transfer.

Thirty-three students (18.8% of the transfers) had been enrolled in the Liberal Arts degree program (Associate of Arts [A.A.]) at PVCC. Only 9 (27.3%) of the Liberal Arts students graduated from PVCC before transferring, but 27 (81.8%) chose liberal arts majors. The third PVCC program with a large number of transfers was General Studies (A.S.). Twenty-three (13.1%) General Studies students transferred, and of these, 6 (26.1%) received degrees from PVCC prior to transfer.

Other programs from which students transferred were Science (A.S.; n=11), Education (A.S.; n=6), Fine Arts (A.A.; n=5), Nursing (Associate of Applied Science [A.A.S.]; n=5), Police Science (A.A.S.; n=2), and Drafting and Design (A.A.S.; n=1).

(Continued on reverse side)

Forty-seven (26.7%) of the transfers were noted as non-degree students in the VCCS student database. Eight of these "non-degree" students were graduates of PVCC.[1]

The average number of credits attempted by the 1990-91 PVCC transfers was 29, and the average number completed was 28. The average number of total credits earned was 73. Total credits consist of credits earned at all schools, including PVCC, which a transfer student has attended.

The average GPA (Grade Point Average) of the 1990-91 transfers at the four-year schools was 2.927. This was probably comparable to the average GPA of students beginning their study at the four-year institutions. Before transfer, at PVCC, the average GPA was 3.257. In all PVCC programs except Nursing, the four-year GPA was lower than the PVCC GPA. The Nursing students earned a four-year GPA of 3.484. Other PVCC programs in which transfers earned an average GPA of 3.0 or higher at senior institutions were Fine Arts (3.264) and Education (3.191).

Students who transferred to four-year schools before graduating from PVCC performed academically about as well as PVCC graduates who transferred. The four-year GPA of PVCC graduates was 2.957, and the GPA of non-graduates was 2.901.

[1] In all likelihood, most of these were enrolled in degree programs at PVCC. However, due to difficulties in accurately coding a student's program on the computer, as well as problems with the computer program itself, errors can (and do) occur.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VIRGINIA PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (1990-91)

Ronald B. Head (Author)
Coordinator of Institutional Research and Planning
Piedmont Virginia Community College

Office of Institutional Research and Planning
Piedmont Virginia Community College
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901
Research Report No. 3-92

May 1992

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (GENERAL) 4

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY) 7

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY) 8

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (LONGWOOD COLLEGE) 10

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA) 12

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE & STATE UNIVERSITY) 14

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY) 16

CONCLUSIONS 18

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities (1990-91) 5

TABLE 2: PVCC Transfers to George Mason University (1990-91) 7

TABLE 3: PVCC Transfers to James Madison University (1990-91) 8

TABLE 4: PVCC Transfers to Longwood College (1990-91) 10

TABLE 5: PVCC Transfers to the University of Virginia (1990-91) 12

TABLE 6: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1990-91) 14

TABLE 7: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Commonwealth University (1990-91) 16

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VIRGINIA PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (1990-91)

INTRODUCTION

In 1987 the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) formulated and published *Guidelines for Student Assessment* , a document designed to assist college and universities in assessing and reporting the outcomes of undergraduate education. Guideline 8 of that document required that all public senior institutions of higher education in the state enrolling 5 or more transfer students from any Virginia Community College System (VCCS) institution during an academic year collect data on those students and share them with the community college. The format and scope of the data were to be determined jointly by the senior institution and the community college.

Guideline 8 data were first reported by senior institutions to community colleges in 1989 for community college students transferring during the 1988-89 academic year. Eight senior institutions provided data to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) and an analysis of those data was reported in *The Academic Performance of PVCC Transfers to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1988-89).*[1]

Three major limitations of Guideline 8 data were noted in this study. First, both the content and format of the data were inconsistent from one senior institution to another. As noted in the study,

---

[1] Institutional Research Report No. 3-90, May 1990.

One institution supplied all data on two floppy disks in dBase III Plus files with report forms available; another supplied data in dBase III Plus files; a third supplied data on a floppy disk in ASCII (text) format; a fourth supplied a written report generated by SAS, one page per student; another supplied a one-page report listing PVCC transfers in table format; and finally, one sent student transcripts of all PVCC transfers.

Second, and more importantly, two of the senior institutions refused to share "student-identifiable" information with PVCC. These two institutions stated that releasing any information by which an individual student could be identified would violate the privacy rights of that student. The end result was that PVCC staff and faculty could not know in which PVCC programs the transfer students were enrolled, and so, for purposes of academic review and program evaluation, the data were nearly meaningless.

The third limitation concerned the time frame of the data. Two institutions supplied information on only those students admitted in the fall of 1988; three reported on all transfers enrolling during the 1988-89 year; and two furnished data on PVCC transfers during the 1987-88 year. The final limitation concerned the definition of a *transfer student*. Quite simply, the definition varied considerably from one senior institution to another.

The following year, seven senior colleges and universities shared Guideline 8 data with PVCC. Although the same limitations were noted, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning did analyze the data, and wherever possible, added information on transfer students' programs of study at PVCC. The results of this analysis were reported internally and used for assessment and academic program review.

In 1990-91, 7 Virginia senior colleges and universities agreed to share with PVCC information on PVCC students who had transferred to the senior institutions during the year. These schools were George Mason University (GMU), James Madison University

(JMU), Longwood College (LWC), Old Dominion University (ODU), the University of Virginia (UVa), Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI), and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). All 7 agreed to provide "student identifiable" information, and by spring 1992, data had been received from all schools. This study presents an analysis of those data.

Some of the limitations of the earlier study have been removed. As noted above, all data supplied by four-year schools were "student identifiable." Although data were supplied inconsistently, the information presented in this study is for the most part consistent from school to school. And finally, in analyzing the data, only PVCC students transferring to senior institutions in 1990-91 were included. Because ODU supplied data only on students transferring during the 1989-90 academic year, ODU data are not reported in this study.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (GENERAL)

One-hundred seventy-six PVCC students and graduates transferred to Virginia public four-year colleges and universities in 1990-91. Sixty-six (37.5%) of these were graduates of PVCC, and the majority (n=67; 61.5%) majored in the same subject area they had majored in at PVCC. Table 1 presents information on 1990-91 transfers by both PVCC program of study and four-year school attended.

The PVCC instructional program with the largest number of transfers was the Business Administration degree program (Associate of Science [A.S.]). In all, 43 (or 24.4% of all 1990-91 transfers) were Business Administration students at PVCC, and 31 (72.1%) of these had graduated from PVCC. Twenty-eight (65.1%) of the Business Administration students majored in Business after transfer.

Thirty-three students (18.8% of the transfers) had been enrolled in the Liberal Arts degree program (Associate of Arts [A.A.]) at PVCC. Only 9 (27.3%) of the Liberal Arts students graduated from PVCC before transferring, but 27 (81.8%) chose liberal arts majors. The third PVCC program with a large number of transfers was General Studies (A.S.). Twenty-three (13.1%) General Studies students transferred, and of these, 6 (26.1%) received degrees from PVCC prior to transfer.

Other programs from which students transferred were Science (A.S.; n=11), Education (A.S.; n=6), Fine Arts (A.A.; n=5), Nursing (Associate of Applied Science [A.A.S.]; n=5), Police Science (A.A.S.; n=2), and Drafting and Design (A.A.S.; n=1).

TABLE 1: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities (1990-91)

PVCC Program	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Completed 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration: GMU	0	1	0	1	28	22	61	1.800	1.536
Business Administration: JMU	14	2	11	5	23	23	88	3.095	2.656
Business Administration: LWC	1	3	3	1	26	25	58	2.804	2.441
Business Administration: UVA	14	4	11	7	39	38	100	3.336	2.745
Business Administration: VPI	0	1	0	1	27	23	61	3.154	1.940
Business Administration: VCU	2	1	3	0	20	19	68	2.976	2.604
Total Business	31	12	28	15	27	26	73	3.174	2.645
Drafting & Design: JMU	1	0	0	1	30	30	65	2.814	1.700
Total Draft	1	0	0	1	30	30	65	2.814	1.700
Education: JMU	3	1	2	2	24	24	86	3.250	3.208
Education: LWC	1	0	1	0	31	31	97	3.362	3.710
Education: UVA	0	1	0	1	43	38	101	3.258	2.779
Total Education	4	2	3	3	33	31	95	3.270	3.191
Fine Arts: GMU	0	1	1	0	54	51	69	3.348	2.833
Fine Arts: JMU	0	1	1	0	48	48	120	3.525	3.500
Fine Arts: UVA	0	2	1	1	48	48	110	3.885	3.217
Fine Arts: VCU	0	1	1	0	25	25	47	4.000	3.920
Total: Fine Arts	0	5	4	1	44	43	87	3.678	3.264
General Studies: GMU	0	3	N/A	N/A	27	23	67	2.397	2.375
General Studies: JMU	2	3	N/A	N/A	27	27	77	3.343	2.827
General Studies: LWC	0	2	N/A	N/A	22	19	27	2.909	2.651
General Studies: UVA	4	5	N/A	N/A	43	42	105	3.270	3.080
General Studies: VCU	0	4	N/A	N/A	28	25	69	3.355	2.927
Total General Studies	6	17	N/A	N/A	29	27	69	3.229	2.913
Liberal Arts: GMU	0	1	1	0	33	33	58	2.933	3.091
Liberal Arts: JMU	2	3	3	2	20	20	72	3.129	2.720
Liberal Arts: LWC	0	2	1	1	29	28	66	2.432	2.083
Liberal Arts: UVA	7	15	20	2	46	44	101	3.673	3.293
Liberal Arts: VPI	0	2	2	0	26	26	70	2.709	2.306
Liberal Arts: VCU	0	1	0	1	15	15	23	2.000	2.400
Total: Liberal Arts	9	24	27	6	28	28	65	3.423	3.137
Nursing: LWC	0	1	0	1	20	20	64	2.792	3.700
Nursing: UVA	3	0	1	2	21	21	76	3.271	3.287
Nursing: VCU	1	0	1	0	21	21	21	3.375	3.860
Total: Nursing	4	1	2	3	21	21	54	3.224	3.424
Police Science: JMU	1	0	0	1	33	33	74	3.171	2.000
Police Science: VCU	1	0	1	0	9	9	77	3.053	2.330
Total Police Science	2	0	1	1	21	21	76	3.116	2.071
Science: GMU	0	1	0	1	34	29	88	2.424	3.059
Science: UVA	1	4	2	3	44	42	94	3.516	2.936
Science: VPI	0	4	0	4	31	29	73	3.069	2.366
Science: VCU	0	1	0	1	24	24	77	2.867	3.130
Total Science	1	10	2	9	33	31	83	3.148	2.782
Non Degree: GMU	0	3	N/A	N/A	27	23	67	2.397	2.375
Non Degree: JMU	2	10	N/A	N/A	26	26	74	3.380	2.949
Non Degree: LWC	0	3	N/A	N/A	19	17	23	3.040	2.860
Non Degree: UVA	6	15	N/A	N/A	38	37	97	3.333	3.104
Non Degree: VCU	0	8	N/A	N/A	21	19	56	3.122	2.698
Total Non Degree Classes	8	39	N/A	N/A	26	24	63	3.283	2.970
Grand Totals	66	110	67	39	29	28	72	3.269	2.929

Forty-seven (26.7%) of the transfers were noted as non-degree students in the VCCS student database. Eight of these "non-degree" students were graduates of PVCC.[2]

The average number of credits attempted by the 1990-91 PVCC transfers was 29, and the average number completed was 28. The average number of total credits earned was 73. Total credits consist of credits earned at all schools, including PVCC, which a transfer student has attended.

The average GPA (Grade Point Average) of the 1990-91 transfers at the four-year schools was 2.927. This was probably comparable to the average GPA of students beginning their study at the four-year institutions. Before transfer, at PVCC, the average GPA was 3.257. In all PVCC programs except Nursing, the four-year GPA was lower than the PVCC GPA. The Nursing students earned a four-year GPA of 3.484. Other PVCC programs in which transfers earned an average GPA of 3.0 or higher at senior institutions were Fine Arts (3.264) and Education (3.191).

Students who transferred to four-year schools before graduating from PVCC performed academically about as well as PVCC graduates who transferred. The four-year GPA of PVCC graduates was 2.957, and the GPA of non-graduates was 2.901.

[2] In all likelihood, most of these were enrolled in degree programs at PVCC. However, due to difficulties in accurately coding a student's program on the computer, as well as problems with the computer program itself, errors can (and do) occur.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY)

As can be seen in Table 2, of the 7 transfers to GMU in 1990-91, none was a graduate of PVCC. Three had majored in General Studies at PVCC. The remaining 4 had majored in Business Administration, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, and Science. The Fine Arts major and the Liberal Arts major majored in related subject areas at GMU.

TABLE 2: PVCC Transfers to George Mason University (1990-91)

PVCC Program (GMU)	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Completed 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration		1		1	28	22	61	1.800	1.536
Fine Arts		1	1		54	51	69	3.348	2.833
General Studies		3	N/A	N/A	27	23	67	2.397	2.375
Liberal Arts		1	1		33	33	58	2.933	3.091
Science		1		1	34	29	88	2.424	3.059
All Programs	0	7	2	2	35	32	69	2.519	2.585

The average number of credits attempted at GMU was 35, and the average number completed was 32. The average number of total credits was 69.

The average GPA at GMU for all 7 transfers was 2.585. Although not a particularly high average when compared to other four-year school GPA's, this *was* higher than the transfers' average GPA at PVCC , which was only 2.519. The highest GMU GPA was 3.091, and the lowest 1.536. The highest PVCC GPA was 3.348, and the lowest 1.8. While these figures suggest that PVCC transfers to GMU may not have performed academically as well as other students at GMU, they did perform better than they had at PVCC. In this sense, they transferred successfully.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY)

Forty former PVCC students transferred to JMU in 1990-91 (see Table 3). Over one-half were graduates of PVCC (57.5%) and at JMU majored in the same subject area they had at PVCC (60.7%). By far, the largest number had been enrolled in the Business Administration program at PVCC (n=16; 40%), and of these, 14 (87.5%) were PVCC graduates and 11 (68.8%) majored in Business at JMU. Other PVCC programs in which the JMU transfers had been enrolled were General Studies (n=5), Liberal Arts (n=5), Education (n=4), Drafting and Design (n=1), Fine Arts (n=1), and Police Science (n=1). Seven JMU transfers were listed as non-degree seeking in PVCC's SIS database (3 "personal satisfaction," 2 "non-degree," 1 "career exploration," and 1 "upgrade skills").

TABLE 3: PVCC Transfers to James Madison University (1990-91)

PVCC Program (JMU)	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Completed 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	14	2	11	5	23	23	88	3.095	2.656
Career Exploration		1	N/A	N/A	62	62	106	3.384	2.532
Drafting & Design	1			1	30	30	65	2.814	1.700
Education	3	1	2	2	24	24	86	3.250	3.208
Fine Arts		1	1		48	48	120	3.525	3.500
General Studies	2	3	N/A	N/A	27	27	77	3.343	2.827
Liberal Arts	2	3	3	2	20	20	72	3.129	2.720
Non Degree		2	N/A	N/A	32	32	65	3.462	3.190
Personal Satisfaction		3	N/A	N/A	17	17	71	3.188	3.379
Police Science	1			1	33	33	74	3.171	2.000
Upgrade Skills		1	N/A	N/A	9	9	51	3.875	3.555
All Programs	23	17	17	11	29	29	79	3.160	2.798

The average number of credits attempted at JMU by the transfers was 29, and the average number completed was also 29. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 79.

The average GPA at JMU of the PVCC transfers was 2.798. This was lower than their average GPA at PVCC (3.16), but only slightly lower than the average GPA of all JMU students (2.87). The highest JMU GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 0.8. The highest PVCC GPA was 3.875, and the lowest 1.781. PVCC programs in which the JMU transfers' average GPA was 3.0 or higher were Fine Arts (3.5) and Education (3.208).

Surprisingly, the average GPA of PVCC graduates at JMU was lower than that of non-graduates. PVCC graduates earned an average GPA at JMU of 2.629, while non-graduates earned an average of 3.054.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (LONGWOOD COLLEGE)

Only 2 of the 11 transfers to LWC were graduates of PVCC. The majority, though, as can be seen in Table 4, majored in the same subject area at LWC that they had at PVCC (62.5%). Four of the transfers (36.4%) had majored in Business Administration at PVCC, and 75% of these also majored in Business at LWC. Two (18.2%) had majored in General Studies at PVCC and 2 in Liberal Arts. Of the Liberal Arts transfers, one majored in a related area at LWC, and one did not. One of the transfers had majored in Education at PVCC and one had majored in Nursing. The Education transfer majored in Education at LWC, but the Nursing transfer did not major in Nursing. One of the transfers was listed as a "transient student" in PVCC's SIS database.

TABLE 4: PVCC Transfers to Longwood College (1990-91)

PVCC Program (LWC)	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Completed 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	1	3	3	1	26	25	58	2.804	2.441
Education	1		1		31	31	97	3.362	3.710
General Studies		2	N/A	N/A	22	19	27	2.909	2.651
Liberal Arts		2	1	1	29	28	66	2.432	2.083
Nursing		1		1	20	20	64	2.792	3.700
Transient Student		1	N/A	N/A	14	14	17	4.000	3.500
All Programs	2	9	5	3	23	23	55	2.840	2.696

The average number of credit hours attempted by the PVCC transfers at LWC was 23, and the average number completed was also 23. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 55.

The average GPA at LWU of the PVCC transfers was 2.696. This was slightly lower than the average GPA at PVCC of these same transfers (2.84). The highest LWU GPA was 3.71, and the lowest 1.483. The highest PVCC GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 1.8. While 5 of the 11 transfers had GPA's at LWC above 3.0, 3 had GPA's below 2.0. The 2 PVCC graduates who transferred to LWC had an average GPA of 3.459, while the remaining 9 transfers had an average GPA of 2.468.

In the sense that many of the transfers had high GPA's at LWC and most were able to maintain their PVCC GPA after transfer, one can only conclude that PVCC transfers to LWC were successful academically.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA)

As is the case almost every year, the largest number of PVCC students and graduates transferring to four-year colleges and universities transferred to UVa. Of the 72 transfers to UVa in 1990-91, slightly less than half (n=31; 43.1%) were PVCC graduates (see Table 5). The majority, however, majored in the same subject area at UVa they had at PVCC (68.6%).

TABLE 5: PVCC Transfers to the University of Virginia (1990-91)

PVCC Program (UVA)	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Completed 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	14	4	11	7	39	38	100	3.336	2.745
Education		1		1	43	38	101	3.258	2.779
Fine Arts		2	1	1	48	48	110	3.885	3.217
General Studies	4	5	N/A	N/A	43	42	105	3.270	3.080
Liberal Arts	7	15	20	2	46	44	101	3.673	3.293
Non Degree		2	N/A	N/A	28	28	80	3.448	3.441
Nursing	3		1	2	21	21	76	3.271	3.287
Personal Satisfaction	1	6	N/A	N/A	36	35	95	3.403	3.065
Science	1	4	2	3	44	42	94	3.516	2.936
Transient Student		2	N/A	N/A	38	37	90	3.436	3.001
Upgrade Skills	1		N/A	N/A	28	28	82	3.434	3.389
All Programs	31	41	35	16	37	36	94	3.440	3.075

The PVCC program in which the largest number of UVa transfers had majored was Liberal Arts (n=22; 30.6%). Seven of the Liberal Arts transfers (46.7%) were graduates of PVCC, and 20 (90.9%) majored in a liberal arts major at UVa. The PVCC program with the second largest number of UVa transfers was Business Administration (n=18; 25%). Fourteen (77.8%) of the Business Administration transfers were PVCC graduates, and 11 (61.1%) majored in Business at UVa.

Other PVCC programs in which the UVa transfers had been enrolled were General Studies (n=9; 12.5%), Science (n=5; 6.9%), Nursing (n=3; 4.2%), Fine Arts (n=2; 2.8%), and Education (n=1; 1.4%). Twelve (16.7%) of the UVa transfers were listed as non-degree seeking in PVCC's SIS database (7 as "personal satisfaction," 2 as "non-degree," 2 as "transient student," and one as "upgrade skills").

The average number of credits attempted at UVa by the transfers was 37, and the average number completed was 36. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 94.

The average GPA at UVa of the 1990-91 PVCC transfers was 3.075. This was almost the same as the average GPA of all UVa undergraduate students in 1990-91 (3.086). The highest PVCC transfer GPA was 3.858, and the lowest 1.233.

The average GPA of the transfers at PVCC was 3.44. The highest PVCC GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 2.7. Sixty-eight (94.4%) of the transfers had GPA's above 3.0 at PVCC, and 49 (68.1%) had GPA's above 3.0 at UVa. PVCC programs in which transfers earned average GPA's of 3.0 or higher at UVa were Liberal Arts (3.293), Nursing (3.287), Fine Arts (3.217), and General Studies (3.08). The transfers had earned average GPA's above 3.0 at PVCC in all programs. PVCC graduates transferring to UVa performed better academically than non-graduates. The average GPA of PVCC graduates was 3.019, while the average GPA of non-graduates was 2.975.

These figures suggest that not only does PVCC transfer the most students to UVa, but it transfers its *best* students there, as well. Certainly, PVCC transfers to UVa perform well academically.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE & STATE UNIVERSITY)

Thirty-two PVCC students or graduates applied for admission to VPI for the academic year 1990-91. Thirteen of the applicants were offered admission, 8 accepted, and 7 actually enrolled.

TABLE 6: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1990-91)

PVCC Program (VPI)	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-YR	Avg Cred Completed 4-YR	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration		1		1	27	23	61	3.154	1.940
Liberal Arts		2	2		26	26	70	2.709	2.306
Science		4		4	31	29	73	3.069	2.366
All Programs	0	7	2	5	28	26	68	2.953	2.293

Of the 7 PVCC transfers to VPI, none was a graduate of PVCC and only 2 (40%) majored in the same subject area they had at PVCC (see Table 6). Four of the transfers had majored in Science at PVCC, and none of these majored in Science at VPI. Two had been liberal arts majors at PVCC, and both chose majors in the liberal arts at VPI. The remaining transfer had majored in Business Administration at PVCC and chose a different major at VPI.

The average number of credits attempted at VPI by the transfers was 28, and the average number completed was 26. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 68.

The average GPA at VPI of the PVCC transfers was 2.293. This was considerably lower than the GPA of these same transfers at PVCC (2.953). The highest GPA at VPI was 2.54, and the lowest 1.74. The highest GPA at PVCC was 3.773, and the lowest

2.702. Two of the transfers had GPA's at VPI of less than 2.0, and the remainder had GPA's between 2.0 and 2.54. The 4 transfers in Science had an average GPA of 2.366 at VPI, and the 2 in Liberal Arts had an average GPA of 2.306. These figures suggest that the PVCC transfers did not perform academically as well as other students at VPI.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY)

Sixteen students and graduates transferred from PVCC to VCU in 1990-91. As can be seen in Table 7, only 4 (25%) of these were graduates of PVCC, but the majority (75%) majored in the same subject areas they had at PVCC. Four (25%) of the transfers had majored in General Studies at PVCC, 3 (18.8%) in Business Administration, and one each in Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Nursing, Police Science, and Science. Four (25%) were listed in PVCC's database as non-degree seeking (3 "personal satisfaction," and one "upgrade skills").

TABLE 7: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Commonwealth University (1990-91)

PVCC Program (VCU)	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Completed 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	2	1	3		20	19	68	2.976	2.604
Fine Arts		1	1		25	25	47	4.000	3.920
General Studies		4	N/A	N/A	28	25	69	3.355	2.927
Liberal Arts		1		1	15	15	23	2.000	2.400
Nursing	1		1		21	21	21	3.375	3.860
Personal Satisfaction		3	N/A	N/A	19	16	36	2.909	2.179
Police Science	1		1		9	9	77	3.053	2.330
Science		1		1	24	24	77	2.867	3.130
Upgrade Skills		1	N/A	N/A	3	3	63	2.846	4.000
All Programs	4	12	6	2	18	17	53	3.114	2.858

The average number of credits attempted at VCU by the transfers was only 18, and the average number completed was 17. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 53.

The average GPA at VCU of the PVCC transfers was 2.858. The average GPA at PVCC of these transfers was 3.114. The highest VCU GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 1.6.

The highest PVCC GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 2.036. Two of the transfers had GPA's at VCU less than 2.0, 7 had GPA's between 2.0 and 3.0, and 7 had GPA;s above 3.0. The 4 PVCC graduates who transferred to VCU had a higher average GPA (3.0) than the other transfers (2.7). All of these figures indicate that in all likelihood the PVCC transfers to VCU performed academically about as well as all VCU students.

CONCLUSIONS

The majority of PVCC transfers to Virginia public senior institutions of higher education in 1990-91 transferred to UVa (40.9%) or JMU (22.7%). The majority of transfers were not graduates of PVCC (62.5%) but majored in the same subject area they did at PVCC (61.5%). The three PVCC programs transferring the most students were Business Administration (24.4%), Liberal Arts (18.8%), and General Studies (13.1%).

Academically, PVCC transfers to four-year schools perform about as well as all students at the four-year schools. This was certainly the case at UVa and JMU. PVCC graduates also perform about as well academically as non-graduates. While PVCC graduates had a higher average GPA than non-graduates at UVa, the opposite was true at JMU.

As Guideline 8 data from four-year schools becomes more refined, and as PVCC's capacity to analyze the data becomes more sophisticated, greater information will be available concerning the success of the college's transfer programs. Even now, however, one can only conclude that these programs are successful, as PVCC transfers perform quite well academically at public college and universities in Virginia.

ERIC Clearinghouse for
Junior Colleges
JUL 24 1992